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# CANADA PENSION PLAN

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## Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program

### Client Information

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*Do you receive a Canada Pension Plan (CPP) disability benefit?*

*Do you want to return to work but you don't know where to start?*

*If you have answered 'yes' to both of these questions, the Canada Pension Plan has a Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program that may be able to help you.*



# What is the CPP Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program?

The CPP Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program is a program designed to help you return to work. It is available to selected people who get a CPP disability benefit. Identifying your skills, upgrading or taking courses with help from a private sector vocational rehabilitation specialist in your community may be your answer to getting back into the job market.



## Can I benefit from the program?

The CPP is looking for people receiving CPP disability benefits who would be the most likely to succeed in the CPP Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program. You may be one of these people if:

- you are motivated to return to work, **and**
- your doctor agrees that you would be a suitable participant in a work-related rehabilitation program.

## What services are included?

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This program is designed to help you carry through your personal return-to-work rehabilitation plan. A specialist in your community will work with you to develop your individual plan. Your CPP Disability Vocational Rehabilitation Program **could** include, but is not limited to, any of the following services:

- **Guidance** — You will get one-on-one guidance to identify your needs, assess your education and current job skills, discuss your work goals and find out about the current job market in your area. You will learn about the skills that employers are looking for, or look at opportunities for self-employment.
- **Planning Your Return to Work** — You and your local vocational rehabilitation specialist will develop your individ-

ualized written rehabilitation plan in consultation with your treating physician. You, your CPP case manager, your doctor and your local specialist have to sign your work-related rehabilitation plan. Then it becomes your contract with the CPP.

## ■ **Improving Your Skills/**

### **Retraining** — If you need

to learn new skills, retrain or upgrade your education, to secure a job, the CPP may pay the costs.

## ■ **Developing Job Search**

### **Skills** — After you complete

your work-related rehabilitation, your specialist will help you:

- find out where the jobs are
- prepare a résumé
- join a job-finding club to practise your interview skills, or
- develop strategies to get interviews or identify organizations that might hire you.

## **What happens to my CPP disability benefit?**

You will still get your regular CPP disability benefit during the time you participate in the program. At the end of the upgrading or retraining process, there is a job-search period when your vocational rehabilitation specialist will help you look for a job. Your benefit continues during this period. If you find a job, your CPP disability benefit will continue for the first three months you are working. However, if you don't find a job, your benefit will still stop at the end of the job search period.

## **Once I am working what happens if I must stop?**

If you must stop working after your benefits have been cancelled, and this is due to

the same medical condition, you may be able to use our fast-track re-application process. You can also reapply for disability benefits.

Talk to a CPP case manager about how your eligibility for CPP disability benefits is protected if you need to reapply.

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## **How can I find out if the program is for me?**

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You can find out more about the program by calling Human Resources Development Canada free-of-charge at **1-800-461-3422**.

People who use a TDD/TTY should place calls with the assistance of Bell Relay Service (BRS) operators.

## Information on other HRDC programs

The following booklets on the CPP, as well as other materials, are available from Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC). Please call free of charge\*:

**1 800 277-9914** English

**1 800 277-9915** French



If you have a hearing or speech impairment and you use a TDD/TTY device, please call:

**1 800 255-4786** .

*Disability Vocational  
Rehabilitation Program –  
General Information –*

*Retirement Pension –  
Canada Pension Plan*

*Survivor Benefits – Canada  
Pension Plan*

## *Disability Benefits – Canada Pension Plan*

## *Credit Splitting upon divorce or separation – Canada Pension Plan*

Information is also available from Human Resources Development Canada on:

- Old Age Security (including the Spouse's Allowance, Widowed Spouse's Allowance and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and
- International Social Security Agreements.

Internet:

[www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/isp](http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/isp)

- \* Our lines are busiest at the beginning and end of each month, so if your business can wait, it's best to call at other times. Please have your social insurance number ready.

